

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 ROME 10955 081032Z

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ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W

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R 080933Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8700

S E C R E T ROME 10955

NODIS

FOR ASST. SECRETARY HARTMAN FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, IT

SUBJECT: ITALIAN FALLOUT FROM PUERTO RICO

1. AS YOU ARE AWARE, THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS HAVE MOVED QUICKLY TO MAKE A DEAL WITH THE COMMUNISTS WHEREBY THE LATTER WERE GIVEN PRESIDENCY OF THE CHAMBER IN THE PARLIAMENT. WE ARE TOLD THAT MORO WAS MAINLY RESPONSIBLE FOR PUTTING THIS DEAL THROUGH, AND THAT IT WILL INCLUDE THE CHAIRMANSHIPS OF A NUMBER OF PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES.

2. WE WERE GIVEN TO UNDERSTAND BY RELIABLE ITALIAN SOURCES THAT MORO AND OTHERS GOING TO PUERTO RICO EXPECTED CLEARLY STATED POLITICAL CONDITIONS FOR ANY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE THE ITALIANS MIGHT RECEIVE. IN ADDITION, WE BELIEVE THE ITALIANS EXPECTED SOME KIND OF POLITICAL "GUIDANCE" PARTICULARLY WITH REGARD TO RELATIONS WITH THE PCI. WE ARE TOLD THAT POLITICAL QUESTIONS WERE NOT CONSIDERED IN THE FORMAL MEETINGS EXCEPT THAT TRUDEAU APPARENTLY RAISED THE SUBJECT, BUT NO OTHER PARTICIPANT FOLLOWED-UP AND THE MATTER DROPPED. WE ARE TOLD THAT, AS A RESULT, MORO MAY HAVE INTERPRETED THE LACK OF DISCUSSION OF POLITICAL CONDITIONS AS A SIGNAL THAT THE USG HAS RELENDED OR IS INDIFFERENT. INGRAO'S QUICK AND NON-ACRIMONIOUS INSTALLATION AS PRESIDENT OF THE CHAMBER CERTAINLY SUGGESTS A SHARP CHANGE IN ATTITUDE BY THE DC LEADERSHIP WHICH JUST TWO WEEKS AGO ENDED AN ANTI-COMMUNIST ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 ROME 10955 081032Z

3. OF COURSE WE DO NOT KNOW WHAT MIGHT HAVE HAPPENED IN ANY  
BILATERALS WITH THE ITALIANS. WITH CRUCIAL NEGOTIATIONS FOR THE  
FORMATION OF A GOVERNMENT ABOUT TO BEGIN, I AM WORRIED  
ABOUT THE CHANGED ATMOSPHERE IN THE DC LEADERSHIP. I HAVE  
ALREADY EXPRESSED MY SERIOUS CONCERN TO SOME IN THE DC  
LEADERSHIP ABOUT THIS APPARENT CHANGE IN ATTITUDE TOWARD THE  
PCI. I HOPE THAT YOU CAN SEND ME URGENTLY SOME KIND OF  
REPORT OF WHAT TRANSPIRED WITH THE ITALIANS ON POLITICAL  
MATTERS AT THE PUERTO RICO SUMMIT SO THAT I CAN REGISTER  
OUR CONCERN EVEN MORE FORCEFULLY. VOLPE

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Concepts:** ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, MEETING CHAIRMAN, SUMMIT MEETINGS, POLITICAL CONCESSIONS, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT, REORGANIZATIONS, CENTRAL LEGISLATURE, CAT-B  
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